

The State Flag of North Carolina

The state flag is divided into three rectangles, two horizontal and one vertical. The upper right rectangle is red and the lower right rectangle is white. The entire background of the rectangle on the left is dark blue. The ribbons and the letters N and C are gold. The dates on the ribbons are dark blue. The star is white.

The state flag, adopted in 1885, displays two dates, May 20, 1775 is the date thought to have been when the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence was issued. This document made a bold statement in favor of independence for the colonies. It stated that English laws were no longer in effect in Mecklenburg County. April 12, 1776 is the date of the Halifax Resolves. In this document, North Carolina authorized its delegates to the Continental Congress to vote for independence from England. These dates celebrate the fact that North Carolina was the first colony to declare its independence from England well before the famous July 4, 1776 date.

